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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 09/679,119 | 10/04/2000 | Roger P. Hoffman | P/2-75 CIP | 7289 |
| 7590 | 08/04/2006 | | EXAMINER | |
| PHILIP M. WEISS, ESQ. WEISS & WEISS 310 OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 201 Garden City, NY 11530 | | | OUELLETTE, JONATHAN P | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | | 3629 |

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/679,119 | HOFFMAN, ROGER P. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Jonathan Ouellette | 3629 | |

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 May 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3-14,16-46,48-58 and 60-71 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,3-14,16-46,48-58 and 60-71 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. <u>20060201</u> . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 2, 15, 47, 52-57, 59, and 72-79 have been cancelled; therefore, Claims 1, 3-14, 16-46, 48-51, 58, and 60-71 are currently pending in application 09/679,119.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
3. Claims 1, 3-14, 16-46, 48-51, 58, and 60-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoffman (Hoffman, Roger, “Small tonnage increases examined by medium mill for cost-effectiveness.” Pulp & Paper, September 1980).
4. As per independent Claims 1, 17, 21, 30, 33, 49, 60, 61, the Inventor (Roger Hoffman), disclosed the business method to include: controlling the operating speed of a continuous process manufacturing facility (Incremental efficiency concept deals with the efficiency associated with incremental changes in machine speed) comprising the steps of: determining a current operating speed of said continuous process manufacturing facility (current efficiency – machine speed is a factor of efficiency); determining a desired operating speed (optimal efficiency), the desired operating speed dependent on at least one economic variable that varies depending on the operating speed (Energy Costs – see

Fig.3); comparing said current operating speed to said desired operating speed (Fig.3, comparing efficiencies); adjusting said current operating speed in response to said determination (Operator would choose efficiency which produces best production with lowest cost – see Fig.3).

5. As per the remaining dependent claims 3-14, 16, 18-20, 22-29, 31, 32, 34-46, 48, 50, 51, 58, and 62-71, the Inventor (Roger Hoffman), also discloses these general functional concepts (ex. Determining/associating cost of energy / cost of manufacturing with production – by manipulating machine speed/efficiency).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 6/27/2005, with respect to Claims 1, 3-14, 16-46, 48-58, and 60-71, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The rejection will remain as NON-FINAL.

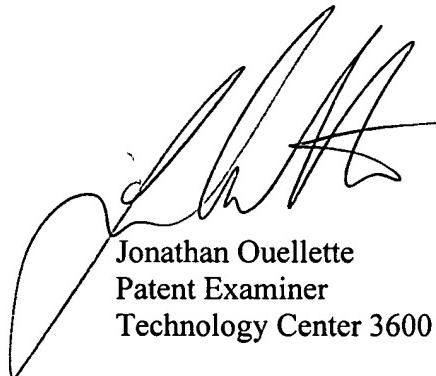
Conclusion

7. Additional Literature has been referenced on the attached PTO-892 form, and the Examiner suggests the applicant review these documents before submitting any amendments.
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (571) 272-6807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am - 5:00pm.

Art Unit: 3629

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (571) 273-8300 for all official communications.
10. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination whose telephone number is (703) 308-1202.

jo
July 31, 2006



Jonathan Ouellette
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600